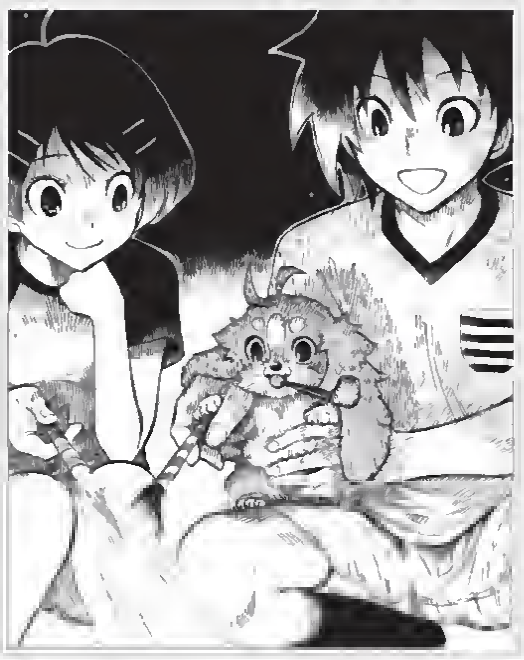
SHERLOCK BONES

4

STORY BY
YUMA ANDO
ART BY
YUKI SATO

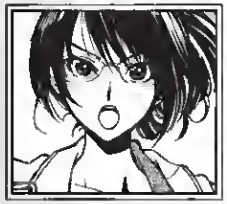
Sherlock Bones 4



Miki & Sherdog & Takeru

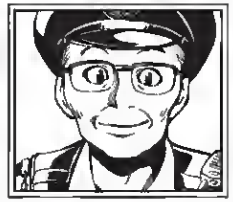
Story: Yuma Ando Art: Yuki Sato

Members of the Wajima Family



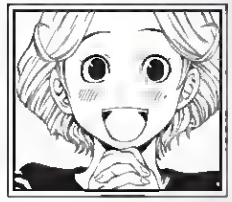
Airin Wajima

Takeru's sister, an inspector in the Violent Crimes Division. Sherdog calls her Irene.



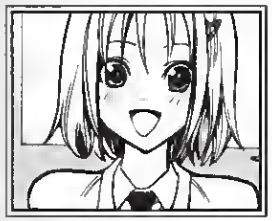
Kōsuke Wajima

Takeru's father. A sergeant in the police force



Satoko Wajima

Takeru's mother. She really hates it when Sherdog sits in her favorite rocking chair.



Akane Nanami

A second-year at London Academy High School, and friend of Takeru and Miki. President of the volunteer club.

THE STORY SO FAR

The puppy Sherdog—reincarnation of Sherlock Holmes—and the ordinary high school student Takeru Wajima team up to solve tough cases!! It's ASB election time at London Academy, and presidential candidate Akane is in danger of losing the election when her mud-slinging opponent distributes an obscene photo of her.

STORY

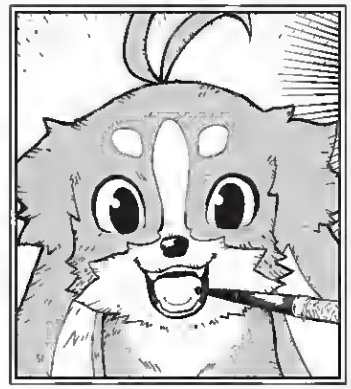
CHARACTERS

Takeru Wajima

A second-year at London Academy High School, he is an ordinary student who loves dogs. He is Sherdog's owner and the one person who can understand him. He and Sherdog must team up to solve all kinds of difficult cases. He has a crush on his childhood friend Miki.

Sherdog
(Sherlock Holmes)

The mixed-breed puppy that Takeru adopted. His true identity is that of the world-famous detective, Sherlock Holmes. When he has the Wajima family's heirloom pipe in his mouth, he can speak to Takeru. He solves crimes with Takeru, learning about the modern world in the process.



Miki Arisaka

A second-year at London Academy High School. Takeru's friend since childhood, and a member of the school newspaper staff.

Volume.4

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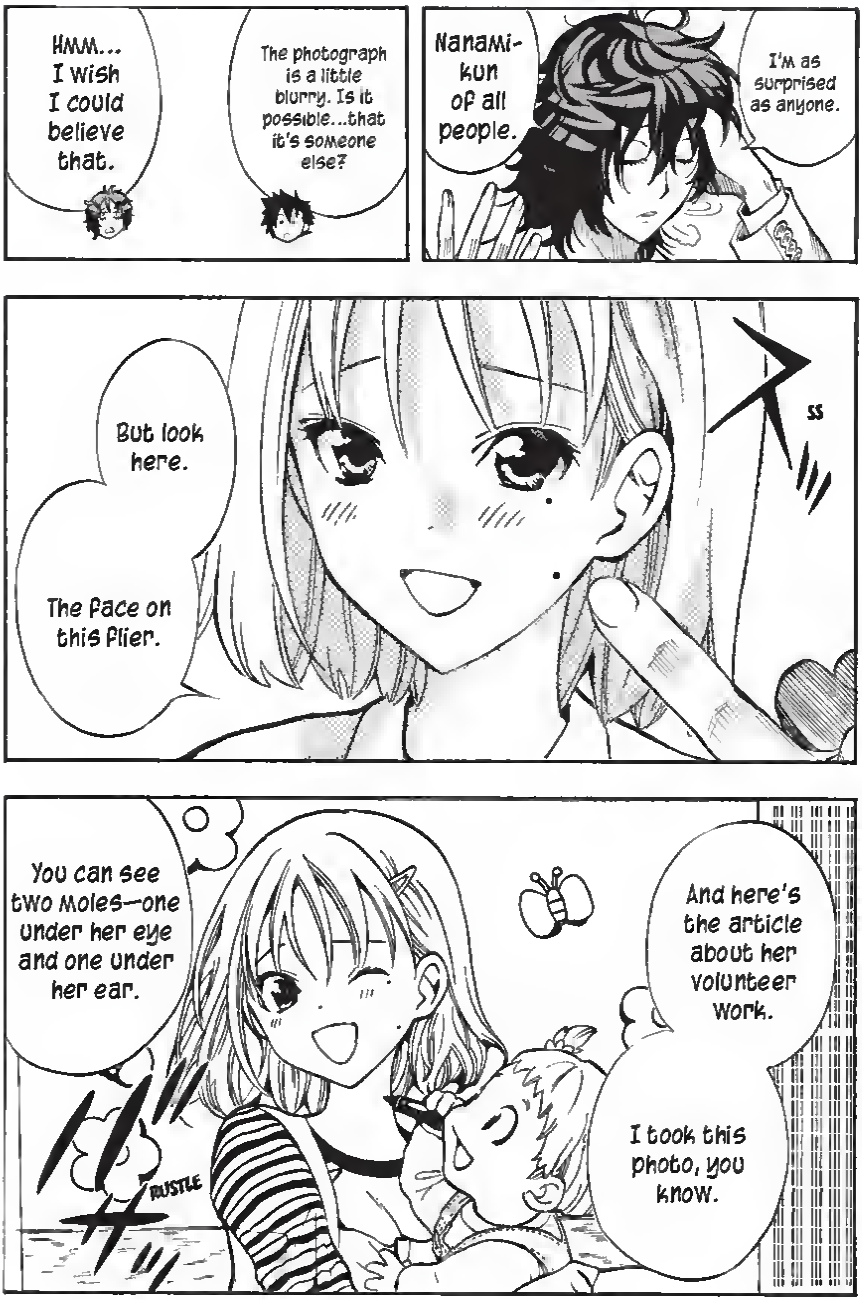
Hey, is this for real?
Nanami's True Colors!!
geous to think that she could be
dent body president. Who knows what
t temptations she may use to care favor?
The picture on this flier!!
I only just heard the news. What's going on?
...!
GLANCE
チラ
The more I look at it...
The more it looks like Nanami-kun, at her old school.
TAP
Akane...
SHERLOCK BONES

Dammit, Samejima. You won't get away with this.
Keep a cool head, Watson.
Remember the plan— approach him with a smile.
Okay.
Miki, come with me!
Right!
Good morning, Samejima-kun.
Can you believe what's happening?
Oh... Arisaka.
TEP TEP TEP
I know, it's crazy, right?
It's a shame she'll have to drop out of the race.
ZOOM
So do you think we could get another interview, Samejima-kun?
If it's okay with you, we'll ask the broadcast club to film it.
But of course.
Oh, you're here, too.
GH GH...
Thanks.
I'll see you at lunch in the photography club room.
SMIRK

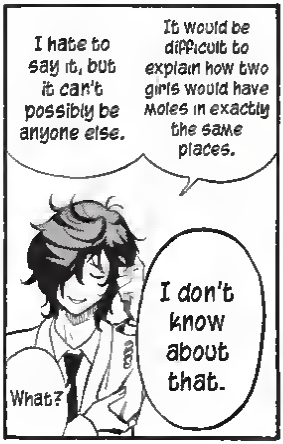
Wow.
Is it just me, or did you take almost all of these pictures, Samejima-kun?
Well, yes, I did take most of them.
GLIMMER
GLIMMER
I won awards for them, so...
Right, First...
Oh!
Now, what would you like to know first?
...
I'd like to ask you about the scandal involving your opponent, Akane Nanami-san!
RUSTLE
In the same spot in every one of these pictures...
Pecu-liar...


HMM... I wish I could believe that.
The photograph is a little blurry. Is it possible...that it's someone else?
Nanami-kun of all people.
I'm as surprised as anyone.
But look here.
The face on this flier.
SS
You can see two moles—one under her eye and one under her ear.
RUSTLE
And here's the article about her volunteer work.
I took this photo, you know.

Y...yeah, you're right...
!
...!
See? They're in the same place.

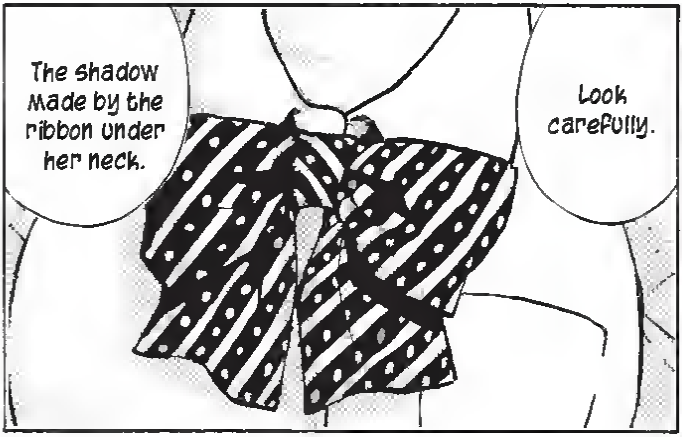
I believe that's where we'll find our answer!!
Just the other day, I happened to read an article in the paper.

ARF!
This photograph was taken with one of those "digital cameras," correct?
Don't look so worried, Watson.


I hate to say it, but it can't possibly be anyone else.
It would be difficult to explain how two girls would have moles in exactly the same places.
What?
I don't know about that.

But it's too soon to present it as evidence.
First...
NOD
...

I think somebody
Found a picture on the internet, and stuck Nanami-san's face on it.
You know, like one of those doctored idol collages.

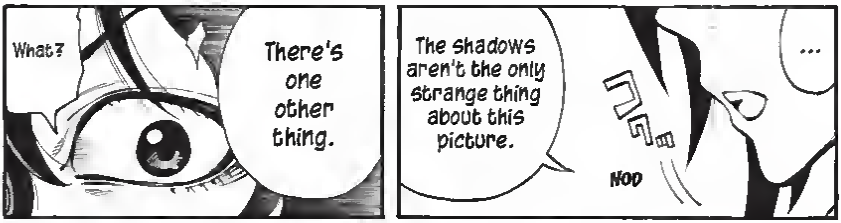

Look carefully.
The shadow made by the ribbon under her neck.

TWITCH
LO
Oh really... how can you tell?
The lighting.

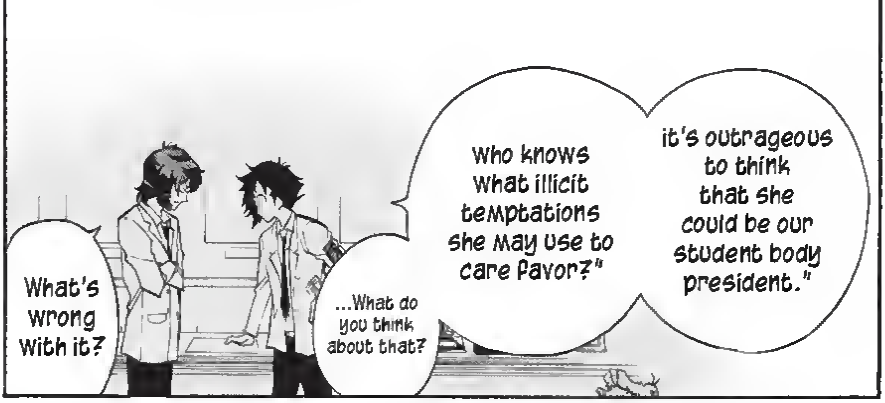
And the shadow cast by her hair.
They're on *opposite* sides.

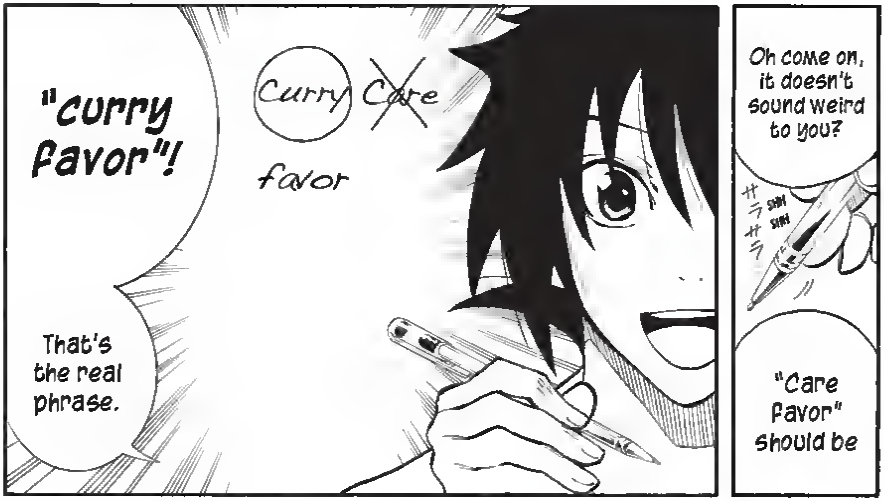
It's possible that light was shining on her from two different places, like this...
I mean, you know.
W... Well, you know...
Changing directions at the neck?
Is... is it, really...?
Hey, you're right.
That's impossible unless the photo's been doctored.
HOW COULD I MISS THAT!
Wha...what are you accusing me of?
I wonder if this flier is some kind of dirty mud-slinging ploy by one of her opponents.
Right. You and Nanami-san.
Incidentally...
RUSTLE
It's just...I'm the only candidate with a chance.
Oh... yes, that's true...
GASP
What? Oh, I never said that you did it, Samejima-kun.
There are other candidates, right?

ARF!
Really? I had no idea.
ASB President Pre-Election Poll
According to our paper's poll,
it looks like Nanami-san had quite a lead over you.


What?
There's one other thing.
The shadows aren't the only strange thing about this picture.
...
NOD

DAM
It's outrageous to think that she could be our student body president. Who knows what illicit temptations she may use to care favor?
There's something off
about this text.


it's outrageous to think that she could be our student body president."
Who knows what illicit temptations she may use to care favor?"
...What do you think about that?
What's wrong with it?


"curry favor"!
Curry
Care
favor
That's the real phrase.
Oh come on, it doesn't sound weird to you?
SHIK SHIK
"Care favor" should be

Autocorrect is known to have done worse.
Just a careless mistake by whoever typed that up.
Right! Typos like that happen all the time.
That's... just...!
GASP

!
Wha... what?!
So I'M sure it's happened to you.

that you want to create a student council that the students care about.
You said in a previous interview
When I become student body president
as I've written on my campaign posters and fliers, I want to create a student council that the students care about
and posters for the election.
I want to create a student council that the students care about.
See? You made these fliers
RUSTLE

Nope. That time, it's what you meant to type.
B-but that's not a typo!!

But what if...
SS
this campaign flier...
was made on the same computer...
STEP
STEP
as this scandalous flier?
Cur
TAPPA TAPPA
Then it would be easy to make this exact typo.
MURMUR
さわっ
That...
TAK
Care
This would be the first word
that comes up in your autocor-rect!

You "journalists" on the school paper should learn how to do your job right!!
!
Th-that's really far-fetched! You're blowing this out of proportion!
SKFF
SKFF

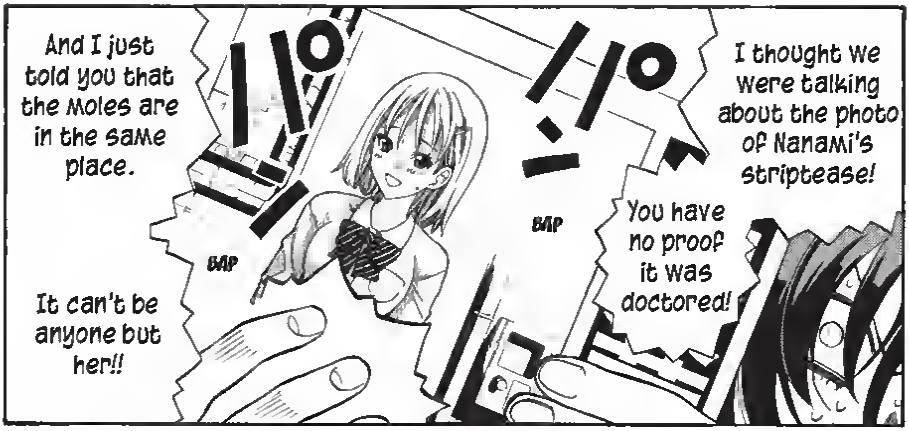
You turned my name into Coki!
It looks right to me.
(Second-Year) Koko Sameyuno-san

What? Where?
You Mistyped the name of a presidential candidate!!
Look!
BAM!

B-but I saw it...this morning...
You couldn't have!!

We actually did print a few papers with a typo yesterday.
But we scrapped most of them—only a few of them got mixed in with the rest.
What...?

So how could you have known about that typo?
!
PSST
PSST
ひそひそ
By then, every single copy of the school paper had been taken from the stands.
You just barely made it to school on time today.
School Paper
School Paper
ひそひそ...
PSST
PSST
PSST...
Grr...!
And it happened to be one of the ones with the typo.
...While you were there, you figured you'd take a copy of the paper.
Because you were putting this piece of libel in the stand?
Was it because you were there last night *after* we left the papers?
?!
GAH
W-wait a second!
TH-THIS DOESN'T LOOK GOOD... OKAY, FINE!

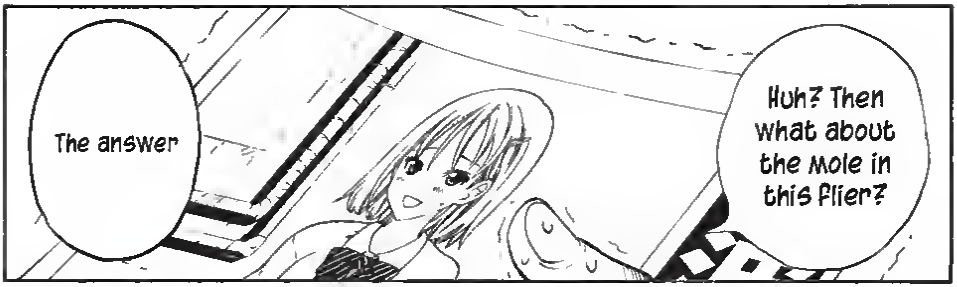

And I just told you that the moles are in the same place.
It can't be anyone but her!!
BAP
!!
!!
BAP
I thought we were talking about the photo of Nanami's striptease!
You have no proof it was doctored!

NOD

Get him, Watson!!
?!
ARF
We've got him cornered— he's trying to change the subject!

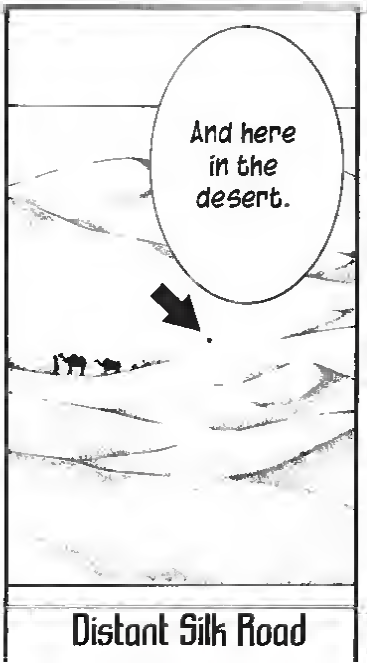
What...?
Hey, Nanami!
You can come in now.

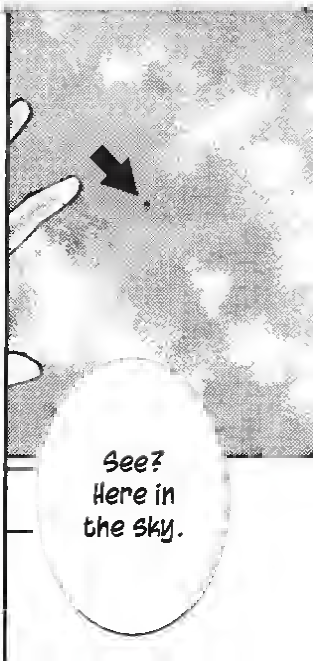
Take a good look, Samejima.
...
RATTLE
She has a mole under her eye...
but there's no mole on the edge of her cheek.
?!
That "mole"
came from a magic marker! The boy I was holding put it there!
I was sure it was there in the volunteering photo.
B... but...


The answer
Huh? Then what about the mole in this flier?

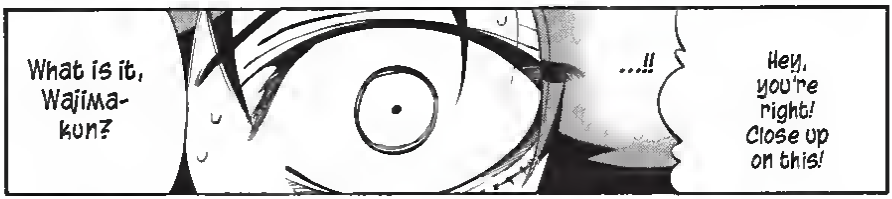
is in these photos
that you so proudly put on display.
?!

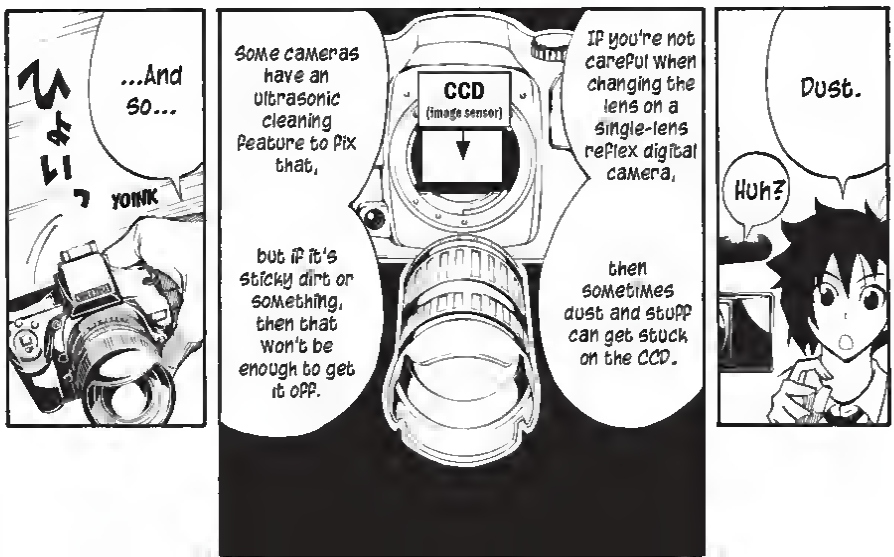
aphy Award
There's one on these White Flowers, too.


And here in the desert.
Distant Silk Road


See? Here in the sky.

A little mole.
In exactly the same spot as Nanami's jawbone here.


What is it, Wajima-kun?
...!!
Hey, you're right! Close up on this!

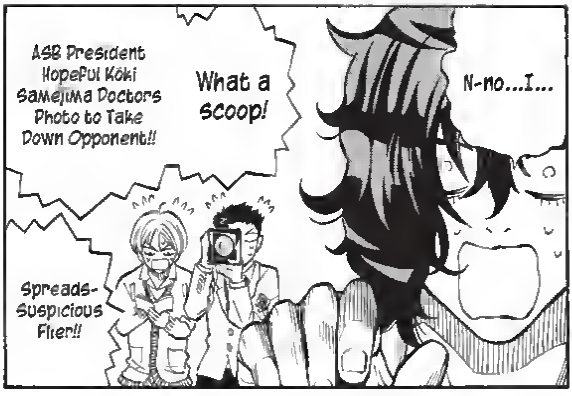

...And so...
ウィーン
YOINK
Some cameras have an ultrasonic cleaning feature to fix that,
but if it's sticky dirt or something, then that won't be enough to get it off.
CCD
(image sensor)
If you're not careful when changing the lens on a single-lens reflex digital camera,
then sometimes dust and stuff can get stuck on the CCD.
Dust.
Huh?

!!
カシャ
SNAP

Exactly. Your camera. Whenever it takes a picture...
D-don't touch my camera you...!
SAMEJIMA

As you can see,
now you have the same mole on your face!

Hey...Stop that! Stop recording!!
Huh?
Recording?


ASB President HopePul Kōki SameJima Doctors Photo to Take Down Opponent!!
What a scoop!
N-no...I...
Spreads-Suspicious Flier!!

Every classroom in the school is watching!!
Oh, no.
This is a *live* broadcast.
Wha—?
YEAH!
イェイ!
It...it's a conspiracy!!
N-no! It's not what you think!
FLAIL FLAIL